

Policy and Information Unit Public Prosecution Service Belfast Chambers 93 Chichester Street Belfast BT1 3JR

FOI 175/23-24 11th July 2023

I refer to your email dated 21st June 2023 in which you asked for information in relation to gender neutral toilets within the Public Prosecution Service (PPS). Your request has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Freedom of Information Act 2000

The Freedom of Information Act creates rights of access for any person making a request for information to a public authority. The rights of access are twofold. First, to be informed by the public authority if it holds information of the description specified in the request, and if that is the case, secondly, to be provided with that information. These rights are subject to important limitations, which are designed to achieve a proper balance between the right to know and considerations of law and policy in the broader public interest.

You had asked the following:

- 1. How many gender neutral toilets do you have for your department?
- 2. Are cleaning staff (includes, but not limited to, all types of staff such as contractors, agency staff, permanent staff etc.) advised, directed or trained to place sanitary pads, commonly known as tampons, in the male toilets?

In response to question 1, please be advised there are 8 gender neutral toilets within the PPS. In response to question 2, no cleaning staff or any other staff members as referenced above are advised, directed or trained to place sanitary products in male toilets.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review in accordance with our review procedure. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of this response and you can do so by writing to the Head of Policy and Information, Public

Prosecution Service, Belfast Chambers, 93 Chichester Street, BELFAST, BT1 3JR or alternatively by sending an e-mail to info@ppsni.gov.uk. You should state clearly the grounds on which you are requesting the review.

Alternatively, you may wish to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Information Management Team Public Prosecution Service